



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

**Committee Bill No. 5110**

LCO No. 4415

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05110LAB\_\_\_032305\_\_\_\_\_\*

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

**AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN WORKERS' COMPENSATION  
BENEFITS FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
PERSONNEL.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (16) of section 31-275 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2005*):

4 (16) (A) "Personal injury" or "injury" includes, in addition to  
5 accidental injury [which] that may be definitely located as to the time  
6 when and the place where the accident occurred, an injury to an  
7 employee [which] that is causally connected with [his] the employee's  
8 employment and is the direct result of repetitive trauma or repetitive  
9 acts incident to such employment, and occupational disease.

10 (B) "Personal injury" or "injury" shall not be construed to include:

11 (i) An injury to an employee [which] that results from [his] the  
12 employee's voluntary participation in any activity the major purpose  
13 of which is social or recreational, including, but not limited to, athletic  
14 events, parties and picnics, whether or not the employer pays some or

15 all of the cost of such activity;

16 (ii) [A] Except as provided in section 2 of this act, a mental or  
17 emotional impairment, unless such impairment arises from a physical  
18 injury or occupational disease;

19 (iii) A mental or emotional impairment [which] that results from a  
20 personnel action, including, but not limited to, a transfer, promotion,  
21 demotion or termination; or

22 (iv) Notwithstanding the provisions of [clause (i) of this]  
23 subparagraph (B)(i) of this subdivision, "personal injury" or "injury"  
24 includes injuries to employees of local or regional boards of education  
25 resulting from participation in a school-sponsored activity but does not  
26 include any injury incurred while going to or from such activity. As  
27 used in this clause, "school-sponsored activity" means any activity  
28 sponsored, recognized or authorized by a board of education and  
29 includes activities conducted on or off school property and  
30 "participation" means acting as a chaperone, advisor, supervisor or  
31 instructor at the request of an administrator with supervisory  
32 authority over the employee.

33 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) (a) As used in this section,  
34 "police officer" means a member of the Division of State Police, within  
35 the Department of Public Safety, or an organized local police  
36 department, and "in the line of duty" means any action that a police  
37 officer, firefighter or member of an emergency medical service  
38 organization is obligated or authorized by law, rule, regulation or  
39 written condition of employment service to perform, or for which the  
40 police officer, firefighter or member of an emergency medical service  
41 organization is compensated by the public entity such individual  
42 serves.

43 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (B)(ii) of  
44 subdivision (16) of section 31-275 of the general statutes, as amended  
45 by this act, "personal injury" or "injury" shall be construed to include,

46 in the case of a police officer, firefighter or member of an emergency  
47 medical service organization, a mental or emotional impairment,  
48 provided such mental or emotional impairment arises out of an  
49 incident or incidents sustained by the police officer, firefighter or  
50 member of an emergency medical service organization in the line of  
51 duty.

52 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 568 of the general  
53 statutes, workers' compensation benefits for any police officer,  
54 firefighter or member of an emergency medical service organization  
55 who suffers a mental or emotional impairment arising in the line of  
56 duty of such police officer, firefighter or member of an emergency  
57 medical service organization shall be limited to treatment by a  
58 psychologist or by a psychiatrist who is on the approved list of  
59 practicing physicians established by the chairman of the Workers'  
60 Compensation Commission pursuant to section 31-280 of the general  
61 statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	31-275(16)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section

**LAB**      *Joint Favorable*